

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 22, 2002. Claims 1-30 are currently pending. Claims 3-5, 7-16, 20 and 30 have been amended. Claims 1, 5-7, 17, 26 and 30 are independent. Each of the points raised in the Office Action are addressed below.

Claim Objections and §112 Second Paragraph Rejection

Claims 3-5, 7-16 and 20 were objected to for the reasons set out on page 2 of the action, and claims 3, 4, 7, 14-16 and 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Applicants submit that the claims have been amended in response to the objections raised and §112 rejections. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections and rejection is respectfully requested.

§§102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1-20, 23, 25-27, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Microsoft Outlook 97, as disclosed in the book, The ABCs of Outlook 97, the article "The Future is Bright for Microsoft Outlook 97," and the book entitled, Running Microsoft Outlook 97. Claims 21, 22, 24 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being obvious in view of these references in view of U.S. Patent 5,790,974 (Tognazzini).

Applicants submit that the presently claimed invention was completed and reduced to practice well before the earliest publication date of these references (November 1, 1996), as evidenced by the enclosed Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 and supporting exhibits. Thus, Applicants respectfully requests that all of the references be removed as prior art in the subject application.

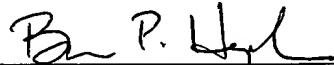
In view of the above-noted references being removed as prior art to the subject application, Applicants respectfully requests that the prior art rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action have all been addressed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Reston office by telephone at (703) 464-4800. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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